

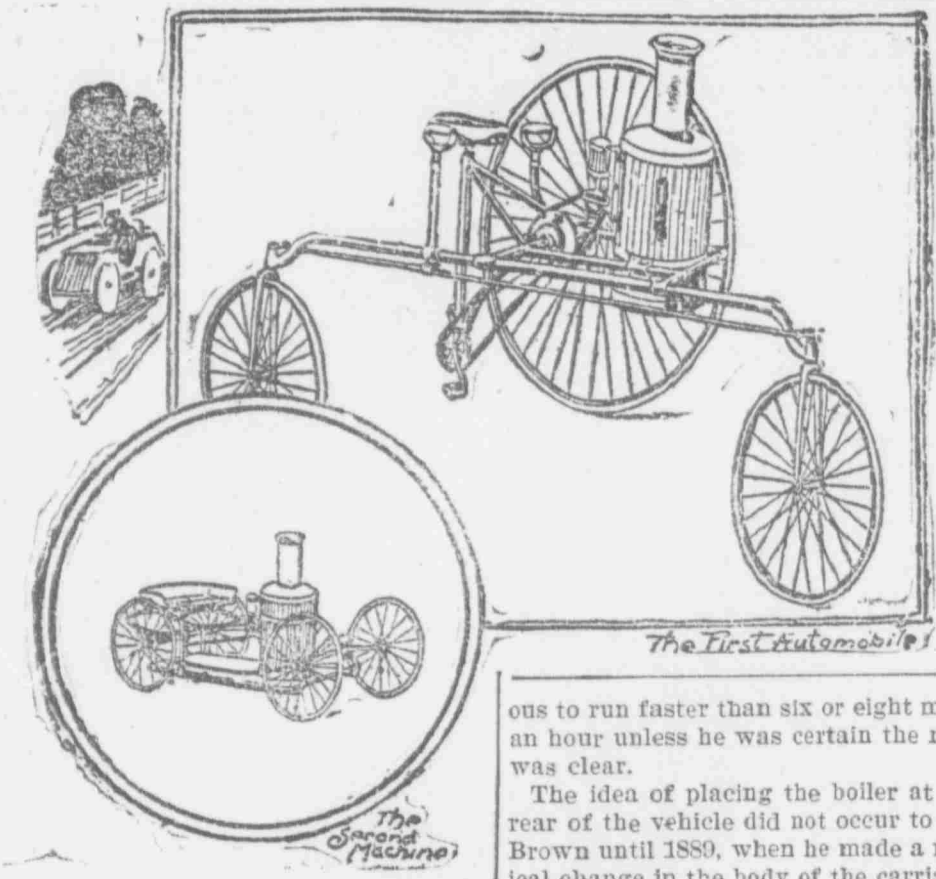
A DIVIDED EYE.

A Fish Which Sees Above and Below the Surface.

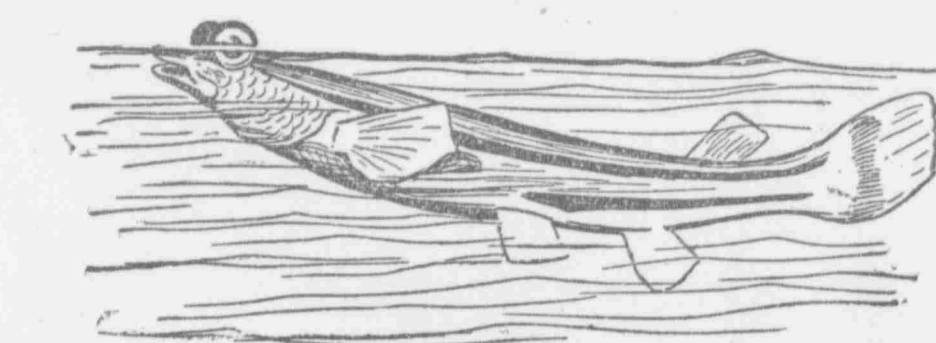
IN the shore waters and rivers of Central America there are thousands of little fish with very curious eyes. They are called four-eyed fish, and the eye is very much like a double eye; and then, too, it



apparently has to do the work of two eyes. It has a broad, dark, horizontal band, nearly as wide as the pupil, right across its center. This band enables the fish when feeding and swimming at the surface, on the lookout



for food, to see above the surface with part of the eye and below the water with the other part. The band which divides the eye into two equal parts, striking the surface or edge of the water, divides the line of vision. Of course, this is a great advantage to the fish when seeking food. And since the band seems to serve no other purpose than to enable the fish to swim thus at the surface of the water, it is but reasonable to suppose that it has been formed there because of this peculiar way of swimming. No other fish are known to swim at the surface in just the same way as do these fish, and if they were to do so, it may be supposed that they, too, would sooner or later get a similar band on the eye, for it is quite likely that this habit of holding the eye at the surface of the water while seeking food, extending through centuries with this fish, very gradually caused a gristle or blurred band to form on that portion of the eye which struck the water, or edge of the water. Now, as it is a custom of nature to take away the usefulness of any member or organ of the body never used, she has caused this band to form here,



Four-Eyed Fish Swimming At The Surface.

since that part of the eye which struck the edge of the water was not used, and could not be used while the fish was swimming thus. This band has, therefore, by slow degrees, become more and more permanent, until now it is firmly fixed, and destroys the sight of that portion of the eye over which it extends. While very young the band is not on the fish's eye. This fact helps to prove that the band was not always on the eye of these fish, but it has been formed by their habit of swimming at the surface.

Some scientists do not call this fish four-eyed, for they say there are no four-eyed fish. They say this eye is exactly like any other eye, except for the band across it, and that the human eye would represent a like condition were one to faster a narrow band across it. Other scientists claim that each of these two parts of the eye can be contracted or expanded independently of the other.

The Pear.

The pear is undeniably the favorite fruit of modern times, indeed, we believe the pear of modern times, thanks to the science and skill of horticulturists, is quite a different morsel for the palate from the pear of two or three centuries ago.

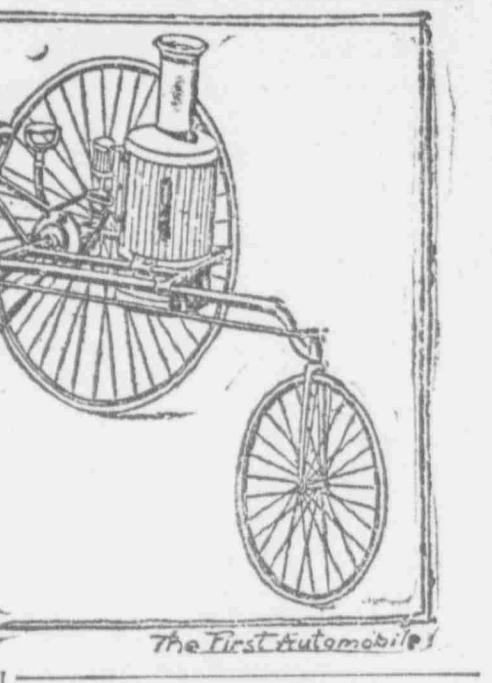
So long ago as the earliest time of the Romans the pear was considerably cultivated. It was common in Syria, Egypt and Greece, and from the latter countries was transported into Italy, and from there into Germany and Holland and eventually into the United States.—New York News.

The First Auto in America

It Was Constructed in 1884 by a Chicago Man.

The first automobile used in America was constructed by a Chicago man. In 1884 Edwin F. Brown, then a well-known bicycle rider, evolved the idea of a steam-propelled vehicle for use on ordinary roads. His first machine was built on the running gear of an old-style tandem tricycle, with a boiler in front. He managed to operate it with some success and was encouraged to undertake an improvement.

After a season of experiment he produced a second vehicle on totally different lines, it having four wheels instead of three, and with the weight hung below the wheel shafts. This was operated successfully, but no great speed could be attained, as the boiler was still mounted in front and the escaping smoke and steam blew directly into the face of the driver, blinding his range of vision and making it danger-



ous to run faster than six or eight miles an hour unless he was certain the road was clear.

The idea of placing the boiler at the rear of the vehicle did not occur to Mr. Brown until 1889, when he made a radical change in the body of the carriage, mounted it on pneumatic-tired wheels, and for short distances operated it at a speed of twenty miles an hour. All these machines were constructed entirely of bicycle parts.

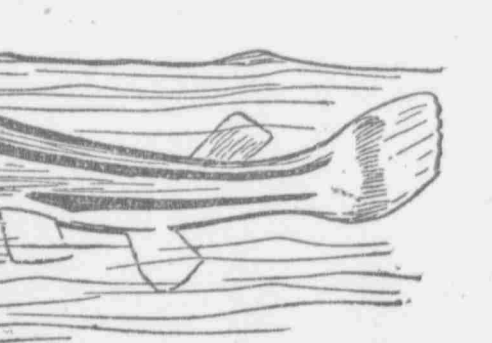
Arkansas Cordiality.

J. B. Rutherford returned from Little Rock and says that Jeff Davis is the biggest man in the State. "The State House," said Mr. Rutherford, "was just crowded with people congratulating the Governor on his nomination. I sent in my card and the first thing I knew Davis came out in his shirt-sleeves and said:

"Say, Jim, you don't need any card when you come to see me. If the other fellow had been elected you might have needed a card, but when you come to see me, just walk right in, and hang your hat on a peg, and unpack your trunk."—Arkansas Gazette.

Don't burn your bridges behind you, under the impression that you are setting the world on fire.

Most women seem to think there are no secrets worth keeping.

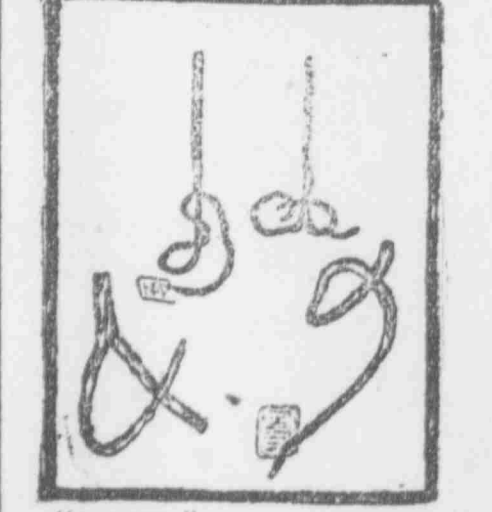


Four-Eyed Fish Swimming At The Surface.

Wands of Office. In some of the Lithuanian villages in the extreme northeastern corner of the German Empire, says the New York Herald, the Mayor, or Chief Magistrate, still uses a wand of office. The use of this symbol of authority can be traced back to the conversion of the Lithuanians to Christianity at the end of the fourteenth century.

These wands are appropriately called "krywuls," or crooks, for they are made of the most strangely contorted boughs and saplings that can be found. The more fantastic the shape of the krywul, the more highly is it valued. Many are made by training young shoots into queer forms.

The krywul is carried by the Magis-



trate on all ceremonial occasions, and it is also used as a representative of his person, like a royal signet ring.

Making a Ping-Pong Set at Home.

Of all the indoor games that the writer has tried—and he has tackled about all of them—none has proved such jolly good fun as table tennis, or as the English call it, "ping-pong."

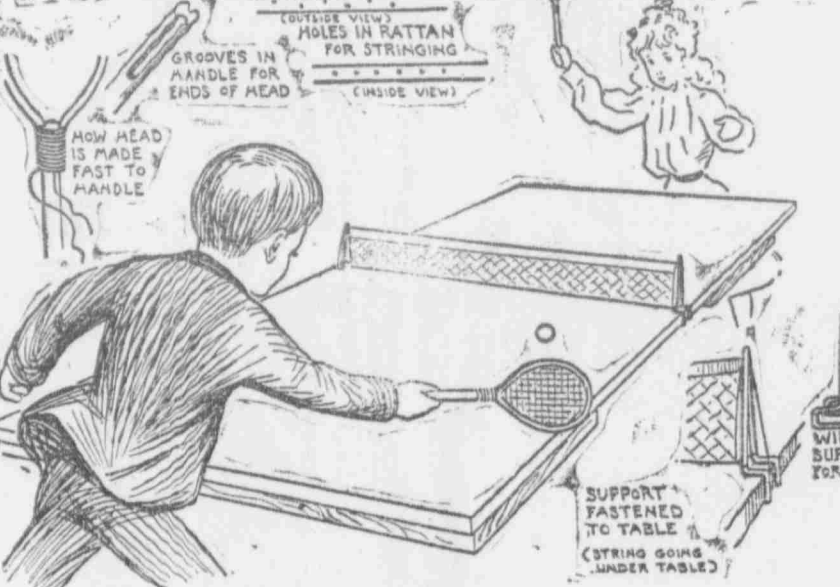
A first-class ping-pong outfit with two rackets that are perfect little tennis rackets on a small scale will cost about \$4 at the shop. When it comes to a very cheap set you can probably make at home just as good an outfit and maybe better.

First, as to the rackets. In England the kind most favored have centres of archment like a drumhead, from which the ball rebounds with that humming ping-pong sound which gives the game its name.

The writer prefers the string racket. Pieces of rattan soaked a while in steaming hot water to make them very supple make good racket frames. A wooden handle, hollowed out at the end with grooves for the rattan frame to fit in is simply constructed, as shown in the diagram above. In stringing the string used on a banjo would be about right. Two strings for each racket should be enough.

These strings should be thoroughly oiled and then used while still wet. Do not string too tight, for if you do when the strings dry and shrink they will pull the frame all out of shape. String first across and then up and down exactly as in a regulation racket. In making a support for your net a couple of yards of heavy telegraph wire will answer. Take each length and touble and bend into shape shown in the diagram. This of itself may not be quite staunch enough to hold the net out, but by running a cord from the top of one wire support down and under the table to the top of the other support, you should be able to obtain the necessary amount of rigidity. The net itself should be about six inches high from the table, and should clear the table by enough to allow the ball to pass easily under it. Any material will do for the net, though a gauze or letting of some kind bound at the top with an inch or two of white tape is best. As to the table itself, it should

HOMEMADE PING-PONG



be simply a smooth and flat surface about five by ten feet, or, say, four by eight feet.

The game is played exactly as tennis is played, except that there is but one court on either side of the net. If the ball strikes the very edge of the table and so bounces off in such a way that a return is impossible, call it an "edger," and serve over again.

The method of scoring is the same as in tennis. One rule of the old game which is barred because of the narrow bounds is volleying. A ball can never be returned, except on the bounce. Pickups, however, are allowable. Another strict ruling of ping-pong is that no overhead strokes are allowed; the hand must never be raised above the height of the elbow. Also the serve must be delivered from a point beyond the end of the table.

The tennis experts and all-round athletes have devised a new sort of racket that makes of this parlor game a rather strenuous and exciting affair.

The racket is simply a wooden paddle of about the same outside dimensions as the ping-pong strung racket; that is, about six inches in diameter—roughly speaking—the handle being of any desired length.

The paddle part is not of one piece with the handle, as it would break or split too easily. The handle is split on. The paddle—on one side or both—according to how you play, is covered with emery cloth or paper guled on carefully. With this rough surface you can cut the ball or give the "Lawford" stroke in splendid fashion.

As to balls, the best are those made of celluloid, which can be bought at any sporting or toy store for a few cents apiece.

This ping-pong is really a great game and the writer thinks it has come to stay.—Detroit Free Press.

The Fever.

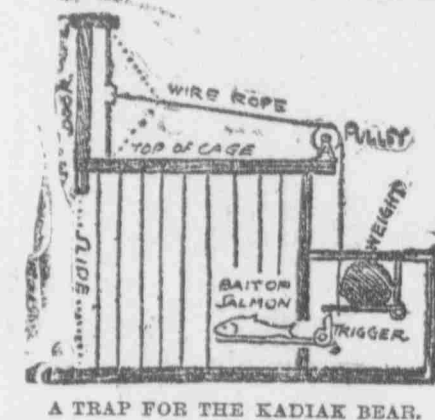
An Atchison girl, who got \$50 a month and had an easy time of it, caught the fever two years ago and chased a man. She had an athletic training, soon caught up with him, and landed him. Now she does all her own housework, including washing and ironing, has twin babies and gets her board and clothes. Her name should be furnished all women seized with this man-catching fever.—Atchison Globe.

In the quantity of annual rainfall the continents rank as follows: South America, Africa, North America, Europe, Asia, Australia.

THE KADIAK BEAR

Attempts to Catch the Largest Carnivore in Existence.

On the extreme northwest coast of Alaska is Kadiak Island, the home of a distinct species of bear, believed to be the largest carnivore in existence. A very large Kadiak bear measures fifteen feet in length from the end of his nose to the end of his backbone,

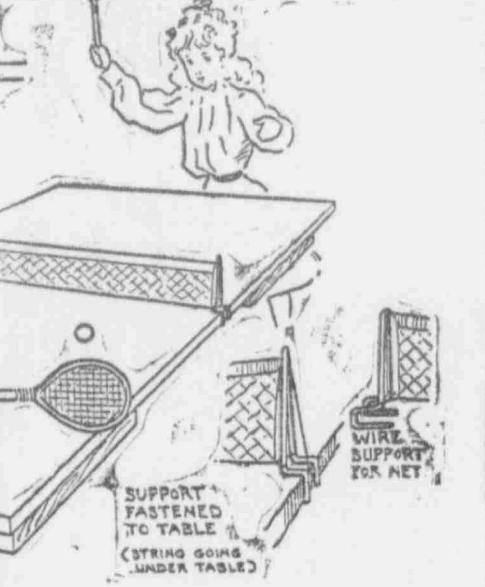


A TRAP FOR THE KADIAK BEAR.

exceeding in length the tiger, the grizzly bear and the polar bear. There is a fine specimen of this bear, the only one in captivity, in the United States National Zoo at Washington, but it is only a cub. Despite his youth, however, he is almost as large as two full-grown grizzlies who are his present immediate neighbors.

Meanwhile the Alaska Commercial Company, acting on behalf of the United States Government, is attempting to capture a full-grown animal of this species. According to the New York Journal there has been standing at Kadiak Island since last June a great steel cage sixteen feet long and six feet high, in one end of which is a heavy raised grating, which is connected with a trigger in the rear end of the cage. This trigger is baited with salmon. When the bear bites the bait the steel door will close on him. The steel cage in which the United States authorities hope to entertain Mr. Ursus Kadiakus until his transportation can be arranged was taken to Alaska and erected on Kadiak Island, under the supervision of Ellwood Hofer, a famous Yellowstone trapper and guide, who is more familiarly known as "Billy" Hofer. This cage, or tray, was designed and made especially with a view of accommodating the Kadiak bear, and, should he enter it, it is probable he will stay in

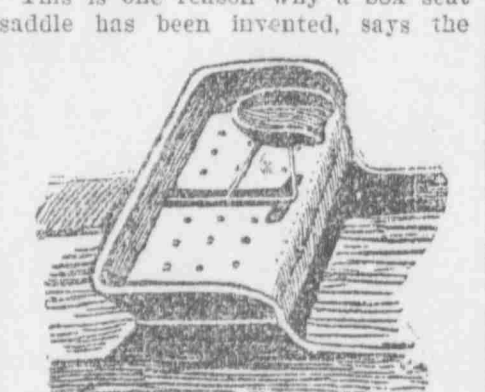
HOMEMADE PING-PONG



it until he arrives in Washington. The cage will be hoisted on to a vessel at the island and transferred to a flat car at Vancouver. At first the trigger was baited with honey, but the foxes of Kadiak Island are much more inquisitive than bears, and, after a number of them had been caught, the bait was changed to salmon.

A Saddle For Drivers. To drive a spirited pair of horses from the box seat of an ordinary carriage is not an easy task, especially if the driver is of medium or low size, and for the reason that the position which he occupies is not one which allows him to exercise full control over the animals.

This is one reason why a box seat saddle has been invented, says the New York Herald. Another reason is because the inventor thought that the average driver would sooner have two companions than one, and there will be room for two wherever this saddle is used, since the driver will be elevated above the two large cushioned seats, and, except by an occasional movement of his arms, will not in the least incommode those sitting beside but a little below him. This new saddle can be raised to any necessary height.



Think "Hello" is Vulgar. The women of Appleton, Wis., a place of about a dozen thousand inhabitants, have thought it all over and are convinced that "hello" as a conversation opener on the telephone is exceedingly vulgar. They have pledged themselves to stand by a crusade to stop the use of the objectionable word.—Syracuse Post-Standard.

Prizes For Wind Gauges.

Prizes of \$1200, \$750 and \$500 for the best instruments to measure wind pressure are offered by the Hamburg Marine Observatory to German and foreign inventors. The plans must be sent in by April 1, 1903.



THE MAN WITH A CHARM.

He bears a life that has a charm! He never seems to come to harm! In midst of murders, suicides, Explosions, wrecks and homicides, He's always there—and so he oughter! Same old ubiquitous reporter! —New York Sun.

SEES A DISADVANTAGE IN IT.

"You ought to be a good boy." "Yes, but if I was a good boy people wouldn't say how bright I am." —Indianapolis News.

NEW NEIGHBORS.

Mrs. Gadabout—That Mrs. Hardhead next door doesn't seem to have many friends.

Hostess (wearily)—No, I wonder how she manages it.—Tit-Bits.

LIMITATIONS.

Midkiff—Did you ever know a woman who could keep a secret?

Rorick—Yes, but I never knew one that could keep it a secret.—New York Sun.

THE ART OF BEING INTERESTING

"I don't think Mr. Bliggins is very original in his conversation."

"He isn't," answered Miss Cayenne. "That is where he shows his good judgment."—Washington Star.

HOW IRON WAS DISCOVERED.

Teacher—Johnny, can you tell me how iron was first discovered?

Johnny—Yes, sir.

"Well! Just tell the class what your information is on the point."

"I heard pa say yesterday that they smelt it."—London Spare Moments.

SPECIMENS.

Miss Singleton (effusively)—Oh, papa is so good to me! At every birthday he presents me with some pieces of jewelry.

Young Archaeologist (naively)—Have you—have you preserved some of the earliest specimens?—Sing Sing Star of Hope.

INCREASED INTEREST.

"Did you call that trust magnate to the stand?"

"I did," answered the man who was conducting the investigation.

"I suppose he added a great deal to the interest in the case?"

"He did. It is now more mysterious than ever."—Washington Star.

OUT OF DATE METAPHOR.

The battle was shifting to another part of the field.

"Here, orderly," said the command in general, "take this message to Col. Garshy, and don't let the grass grow under your feet, either!"

"How can I, general, when I am to travel by balloon?"—Chicago Tribune.

MODIFIED EGGS.

The "drummer," whose route took him to the lumber districts of Maine, went down to the breakfast table at the hotel one morning to find that the chief dish was to be scrambled eggs.

The rosy-cheeked waitress was gone a long time after his order and finally appeared with cheeks rosier than ever.

"Please, sir," she said, hesitatingly, "the eggs were not quite fresh enough to scramble, but will you have 'em boiled?"—New York Mail and Express.

WHY HE KEPT QUIET.

"I don't believe that there is such a thing as a Fool Killer in the world," declared Mrs. Muggins, in the course of a family debate which had become somewhat acrimonious.

"The remark is rather irrelevant to the matter in hand," remarked Mr. Muggins. "Still, I'd like to know the grounds for your disbelief."

"Would you? Well, Charles Augustus Muggins, if there was such a thing as a Fool Killer, you would have never lived to be thirty-five years old."—Pittsburg Gazette.

HER FUNNY STORY.

"I want to tell you such a funny thing," she said. "When I heard it I laughed till I nearly died. You know the Fergusons have a new coachman. Well, day before yesterday Nell and her mother wanted to make calls, so they told the coachman to get the coupe ready, and they made eight calls from 1 o'clock until 5."

"I don't see anything so funny about that," he observed.

"But there was something else," she said. "Dear me, I wish I could remember what it was. It was just kill ing."—Chicago Record-Herald.

SHE OUGHT TO KNOW.

Four-year-old Ruth was seated on the floor, "tending to the cares of a large family of dolls, one member of which was in rather a dilapidated condition.

"How old is that 'Dollie, Ruth?" inquired a visiting friend.

"She is fifty years old," answered Ruth gravely.

"Why, Ruthie," exclaimed Sister Margaret, "I don't think she is as ancient as that."

"Margaret," and the large brown eyes were raised in surprise, "I certainly flunk I ought to know the ages of my own children."

And Ruthie was right. The doll had been her grandmother's.—Chicago Chronicle.

LIVE NEWS OF THE OLD DOMINION.

Latest Happenings Gleaned From All Over the State.

TO GET SLICE OF ENGLISH ESTATE.

Narrow Escape of the Atlanta and Newport News Train—Train Robber Searcy Released From Prison—May Agala Escaped at Leesburg—Passenger Agent Bunch Resigns—Suicide of H. T. Hall—Other News.

Pensions Granted.—Original—Samuel Cauley, Eastville, \$12; James E. Ayers, Mearsville, \$10; (war with Spain), David C. Barton, Dublin, \$6; Aaron Mullen, Norfolk, \$8. Increase, Restoration, Reissue, etc.—Paul Marshner, National Soldiers' Home, Elizabeth City, \$2; Richard Faggains, Sturgeonsville, \$8; Original Widows, etc. (war with Spain)—Margaret R. Culbertson, Coeburn, \$12. Increase, Widows (special, accrued April 17)—Alice deK. Shattuck, East End, \$20. Original—Jesse Stran, Pastoria, \$20. War with Spain—Charles B. Plaiss, Newport News, \$6. Original Widows, etc. (special, accrued April 14)—Lucinda Thomas, Woolsey, \$8. Increase, Restoration, Reissue, etc.—Thomas Watkins, Norfolk, \$14. Original Widows, etc. (special, accrued April 12)—Betty Johnson, Lent, \$8.

Joseph W. Colbert and family of Portsmouth, were notified by their English lawyers that the Colbert family's share of the William Bradford estate would amount to between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000. The entire estate is valued at \$120,000,000, the accumulation of a century, and both American and English lawyers have for many years been attempting a settlement between the heirs in this country and England, a final compromise having been effected. The Colbert family are direct descendants of Bradford, and James Bradford Stuart Colbert, a member of the family, is a relative of the late Confederate general, J. E. B. Stuart. William Bradford came over in the Mayflower in 1620. His wife, who owned the estate, died on the voyage. The estate consists of realty in England, which has been increasing in value. Bradford succeeded Governor Carver, who was the first chief executive of Plymouth colony, and served 31 years.

It is stated by Gen. George H. Harris, commanding the National Guard of the District of Columbia, that his command will again encamp at Leesburg this summer for their annual maneuvers. The officers are reported as saying that unless other sections of the country within a radius of 50 miles of Washington can present something out of the ordinary the guardsmen will pay Leesburg another 10 days' visit, as in 1899 and 1901. The health of the troops while in camp there was the best, the water unexcelled and everything was made pleasant for the soldier boys by the residents of the town.

Fire early the other morning destroyed two and badly damaged five buildings in the heart of Norfolk's business district. The fire started shortly after 6 o'clock in the building occupied by the Virginia Candy Company. The flames quickly spread to MacDonald's restaurant, the north, and to L. P. Robert's grocery on the south. The latter building was wrecked by a falling wall. The other buildings were only slightly damaged. The loss is about \$50,000 or \$60,000, which is fully covered by insurance.

Charles J. Searcy, the now famous criminal who assisted in the robbery of a train on the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad seven years ago, was released from the Richmond penitentiary, and lost no time in disappearing from that vicinity. Searcy turned State's evidence against his arrest, and his accomplice, Morganfield—who got a long term on his testimony—has sworn to kill him. In dread of Morganfield, who is a desperate man, Searcy put up as many miles between them as possible.

Mr. H. T. Hall committed suicide at his home in the county, several miles from Danville, near Chestnut Level. Declining dinner on the plea that he was not hungry, while the family were dining he took a shotgun into the yard and discharged the contents into his own head. There is no known cause for the act, other than that life seemed to have become a burden to him. He was becoming infirm in body, being in his sixty-seventh year, and unsound in mind, and seemed to crave death.

At a meeting of the citizens of Washington district, in Westmoreland county, held for the purpose of discussing the public road question, resolutions were adopted bearing on the subject, and a permanent committee for the entire district was appointed to advise with the authorities as to the best method of enforcing contracts and in managing the roads.

The Norfolk and Washington steamer Newport News and the Chesapeake Line steamer Atlanta narrowly escaped a collision in the Norfolk harbor. Both vessels contended for the starboard right of way and many cross whistles were blown. But for the fact that the Atlanta backed at full speed a disastrous collision would have resulted.

The news of the formation of the Chesapeake Navigation and Wharf Company, of Baltimore, has created a good deal of excitement in shipping circles in Newport News, as it is understood that it is aimed against the interests of Virginia ports. Two years ago a similar charter was granted a Newport News company, but was never used. It will be made use of should the Baltimore charter be operated under, and the Virginia legislature will be appealed to for similar charters.

Judge T. W. Harrison, of Winchester, has granted a charter to the Winchester Nursery Company. The corporation has a capital stock of \$50,000. It will begin the culture of nursery stock on a large scale.

At Bristol, W. S. Dobbins brought suit against the Evening News for \$5,000 for alleged defamation of character. The exports from Norfolk for April amounted to \$446,492, a considerable decrease compared with previous months.

Rev. Dr. Joseph Packard, dean of the faculty of the Theological Seminary of Virginia, died Saturday, aged nearly 95 years.

Capt. J. H. Waters has announced himself as an independent candidate for Mayor of Staunton.

The American Tobacco Company will increase the force in its cigarette factory in Danville from 700 to 1,500.